## State of the State

Early Learning in Utah

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#### **State Kindergarten Programs**

Supports districts and charters in delivering an academic program that focuses on literacy and numeracy skills through extended or full-day kindergarten options.

11,765 (24%) of students currently being serviced

54 districts and charters receiving funding

Total funds \$10.38 million



#### State Kindergarten Programs

Early Intervention Program: Optional Extended Day Kindergarten (OEK)

S.B. 49: 2007 – established Optional Extended-Day Pilot Program

H.B. 513: 2012 — created the Early Intervention Program\$7.5 million (Education Fund)

Kindergarten Supplemental Enrichment Program (KSEP)

H.B. 168 (2017)

\$2.88 million (TANF)
Funding expires at end of 2019-2020
school year



#### **Performance Levels**

Level 1:

A Utah student entering kindergarten at Level 1 does not show prerequisite knowledge and skills in literacy or numeracy and may require significant intervention to succeed in kindergarten.

Level 2:

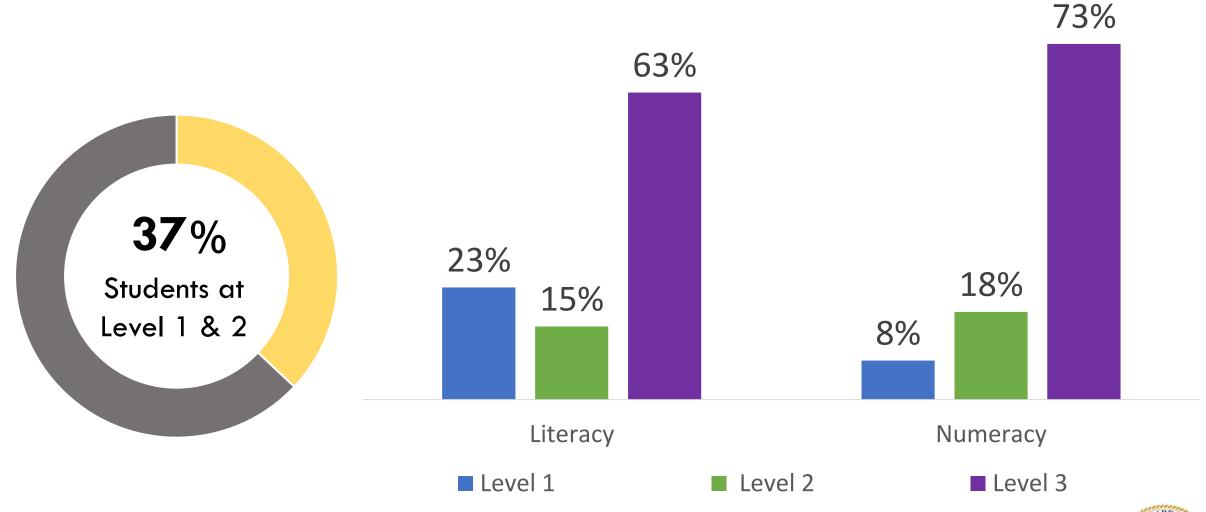
A Utah student entering kindergarten at Level 2 has minimal prerequisite knowledge and skills in literacy or numeracy and may require some intervention to succeed in kindergarten.

Level 3:

A Utah student entering kindergarten at Level 3 has sufficient prerequisite knowledge and skills in literacy or numeracy but may require minimal intervention to succeed in kindergarten.



## Kindergarten Entry Results





#### Outcomes of Students who are At-Risk for Academic Failure

Literacy Performance from Entry to Exit

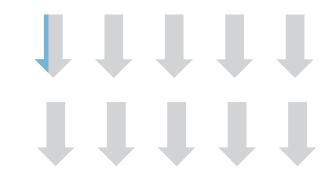
70% of students enrolled in OEK/KSEP moved up



**27%** of students enrolled in OEK/KSEP maintained



2% of students enrolled in OEK/KSEP moved down



**52%** of students not receiving intervention moved up

**42**% of students not receiving intervention maintained

7% of students not receiving intervention moved down

#### Outcomes of Students who are At-Risk for Academic Failure

Numeracy Performance from Entry to Exit

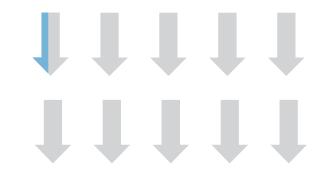
70% of students enrolled in OEK/KSEP moved up



**26%** of students enrolled in OEK/KSEP maintained



**4%** of students enrolled in OEK/KSEP moved down



56% of students not receiving intervention moved up

35% of students not receiving intervention maintained

9% of students not receiving intervention moved down

## Percent of Students Attending Full-Day Kindergarten



## Things to Consider

About 40% of Utah students are coming to kindergarten atrisk for academic failure, only HALF are being served through OEK and KSEP

**\$2.88** million in Federal TANF is expiring by 2019-2020 SY (affecting programs in 46 schools, in 17 LEAs)



## K-3 Reading Program (53F-2-503)

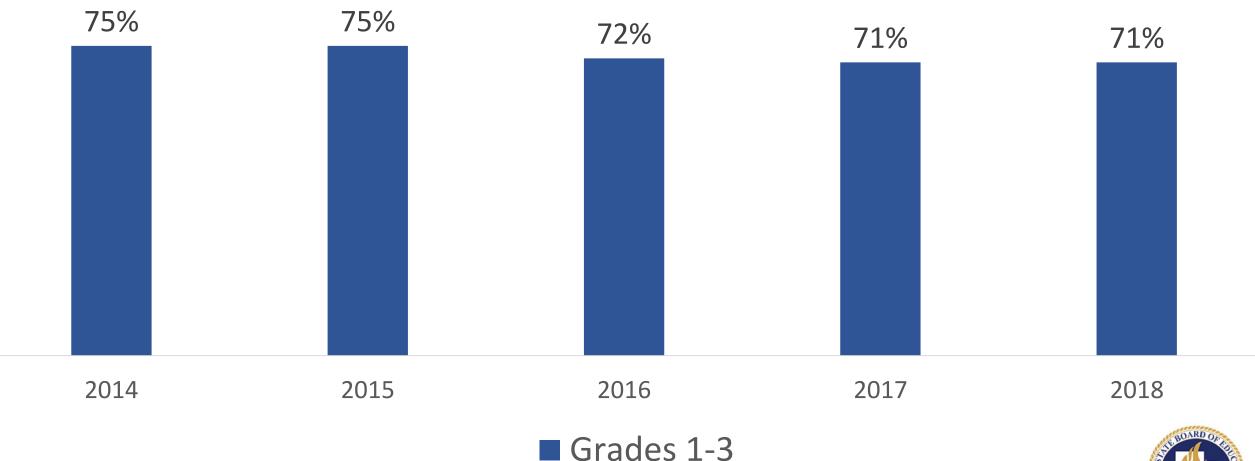
Support districts and charters in improving literacy outcomes in grades K-3



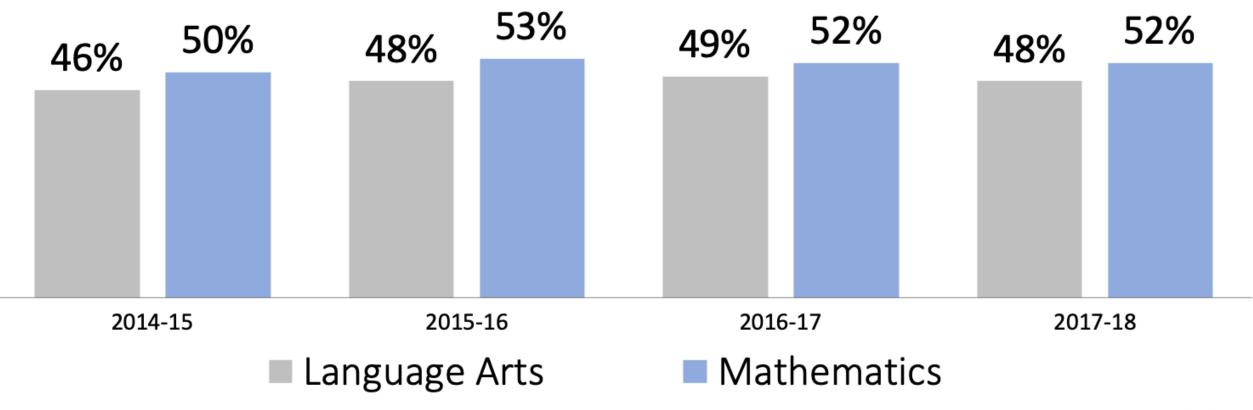
Focused on providing interventions for students who are at risk from achieving future literacy outcomes - \$15 million



## Longitudinal State Reading Benchmark Assessment Data



#### Percent Proficient on State End-of-Level Assessment (Grade 3)



## Early Literacy Program Legislative Changes (2018)

Added Core Components: phonological awareness, phonics, fluency, comprehension, vocabulary, oral language, and writing

Intervention strategies that are aligned to student needs

Professional development for classroom teachers, literacy coaches, and interventionists in K-3

Assessments that support adjustments to core and intervention instruction

System of Support



## **Targeted Goals**

#### State Growth Goal

At least 60% of all students in grades 1-3 must make typical or better progress



#### Local Goals

At least two goals specific to LEA performance data that are measurable, address performance gaps based on data, and include specific, evidence-based strategies for improving outcomes



## State Data - Middle of Year (2018-2019)

Kindergarten, first, and third grade exceed the national data trends for students who are at or above benchmark.

Kindergarten has increased 8% from beginning to middle of year

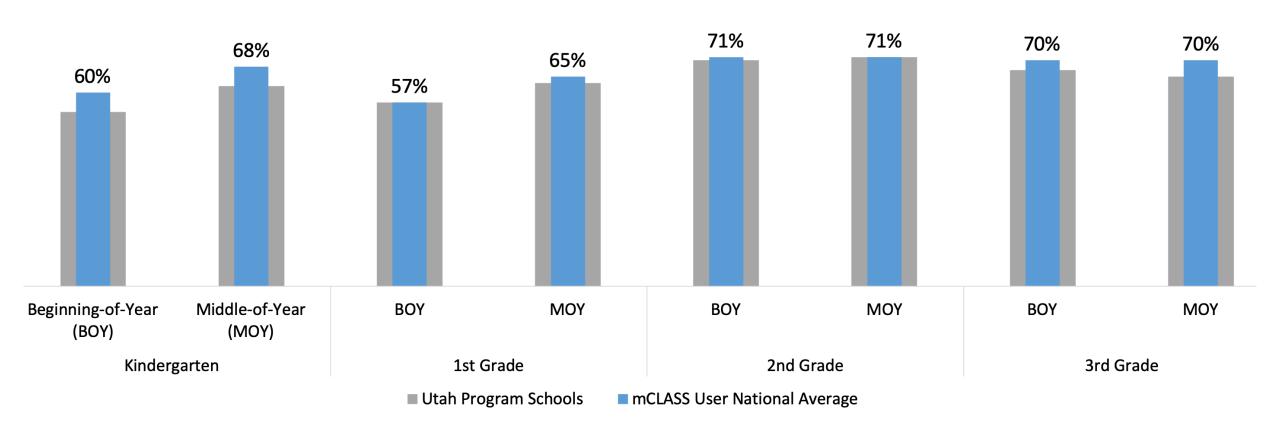
(avg. 2% last 3 years)

First grade has increased 8% from beginning to middle of year

(avg. 3% last 3 years)



# National Comparisons 2018-2019 Percent Reaching At/Above Benchmark by Grade



#### **Davis Implementation Strategies**

Identified 13 schools that had a pattern of the lowest performing kindergarten data in the district

Met with teachers and administrators of schools

Two coaches assigned from district to support on-site coaching in each building; implemented system of coaching cycles

District-based professional learning "Kindergarten Foundations" courses were attended by all teachers in these schools

Reevaluation of system based on data



#### Davis School District - EOY Outcomes

Average increase in growth:

25% more than previous year

Average increase in number of students that met benchmark:

21% more than previous year

#### **Impact**



The results of a statewide survey and focus groups showed teachers feel **least** confident in teaching foundational reading skills. The targeted professional learning and coaching provided in Davis's at-risk schools suggests that improving teacher knowledge is critical for improving student outcomes.



## Things to Consider

Currently have an Early Literacy Plan, **no** numeracy plan

There is no state assessment for numeracy in grades 1 and 2

Limited funding for supported, targeted professional learning with job-embedded coaching support



#### Conclusion

Teachers matter more to student achievement than any other aspect of schooling. Many factors contribute to a student's academic performance, including individual characteristics and family and neighborhood experiences. But research suggests that, among school-related factors, teachers matter most.

When it comes to student performance on reading and math tests, a teacher is estimated to have two to three times the impact of any other school factor, including services, facilities, and even leadership.





